REMARKS

Applicants requested that the specification be amended to recite applicants' claim for priority under § 120 in the Transmittal Letter filed with this application. That request has been repeated in this amendment. Acknowledgement of applicants' claim is respectfully requested.

The title has been amended as required.

Claims 5-8 stand rejected under § 102 on the basis of Katsumata et al. '411. Independent claim 5 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Applicants traverse because Katsumata et al. do not disclose (or suggest) a dedicated write IC chip, a dedicated read and write IC chip individually provided in a disk drive, or a dedicated write IC chip located on the swinging arm. Any one of these differences is sufficient to overcome the outstanding rejection.

Amended claim 5 is directed to a disk drive. Claim 5 defines a swinging arm supporting a head suspension at the tip end. The swinging arm is coupled to a support shaft for relative rotation. Claim 5 also defines a dedicated write IC chip located on the swinging arm. The dedicated write IC chip is connected to the write element on the head slider.

In general, a dedicated read IC chip loses a smaller amount of heat energy as compared with a dedicated write IC chip. Even if the dedicated read IC chip is located on the head suspension, excessive heat is not transmitted to the head suspension from the dedicated read IC chip. The mechanical properties and the shape of the head suspension can be maintained as expected.

On the other hand, the write current of approximately 4mA is amplified to approximately 40mA, for example, in the dedicated write IC chip. A larger electric current generates a large amount of heat energy in a dedicated write IC chip. However, the heat energy can be kept within the swinging arm, so it hardly reaches the head suspension. Accordingly, the mechanical properties and shape can be maintained as expected in the head suspension.

Katsumata et al. disclose a head IC 34 and a control IC 53 as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The examiner insists that the control IC 53 corresponds to the dedicated write IC chip of the present invention. See page 4, second line from the bottom to page 5, line 1 in the outstanding office action. The structure of the control IC 53 is shown in Fig. 11 of Katsumata et al. It is apparent from Fig. 11 that the control IC 53 includes many circuits for controlling the magnetoresistive elements 321 and the thin-film heads 322. Thus, the control IC 53 is not a dedicated write IC chip.

Katsumata et al. also fail to disclose or even suggest the concept that the dedicated read and write IC chips are individually provided in the disk drive.

Furthermore, Katsumata et al. evidently fail to disclose or even suggest the dedicated write IC chip located on the swinging arm. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 stands rejected under § 103 on the basis of Katsumata et al. '411. Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons given with respect to independent claim 5, and request withdrawal.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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